GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2995
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2016
Bringing Back Indian Antiques
Charitra Shri Ram

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to bring back the invaluable antiques from various countries including United States of America;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the period, origin and the historical value of the antiques;

(c) whether the US has recently returned back to India some such antiques and some more are also to be returned;

(d) whether any foreign country is seeking for the restoration of ancient antiques from India; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE, CULTURE AND TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (b) Yes, Madam. Archaeological Survey of India is making all out efforts to bring back the antiquities which have been illegally exported out of India to various countries including United States of America.

The list of the antiquities retrieved from various countries till date is given in Annexure I.

(c) The United States of America has agreed to return 19 antiquities to India. Out of 19 antiquities, 10 antiquities have been returned to India and the return of remaining antiquities are under process.

(d) to (e) No, Madam.

ANNEXURE -I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY PART TO (a) to (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2995 FOR 5.12.2016

LIST OF RETRIEVED ANTIQUITIES FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Sl.No. Description of object Provenance Country from which retrieved Date/
year of Retrieval Means of Retrieval Present location
1. Sawn stucco Head Nalanda, Bihar U.K. and France 1976 Voluntarily returned by British Museum, London and Madam Krishna Robound of France Patna Circle
2. Nataraja of Chola period Sivapuram Tamil Nadu U.S.A. 1986 Through Court Case in U.K and U.S.A. Tamil Nadu Government
3. Terracotta Yakshi of Tamluk West Bengal U.K. 1986 Court case was instituted in London but out of Court settlement was reached for retrieval CAC Section, Purana Qila, New Delhi
4. Nataraja of Chola period Tiruvilakkadi, Tamil Nadu U.S.A 1986 Kimbell Art Museum returned the idol after Indemnity agreement was signed by the GOI on 12.8.1985
5. Nataraja of Chola period Pathur, Tamil Nadu U.K. 1991 Retrieved through Court case instituted in London High Court and appeal in Royal Court of Justice at London. Tamil Nadu Government
6. Terracotta figures from Bhitargaon Utter Pradesh U.S.A 1991 The figure was returned voluntarily by Los Angeles Country Museum. CAC Section, Purana Qila, New Delhi
7. Amin pillars Amin, Haryana U.K 1979-80 Voluntarily returned National Museum, New Delhi
8. Image of Buddha Bodhgaya, Bihar U.S.A 1999 Voluntarily returned without seeking any monitory compensation by Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York CAC Section, Purana Qila,
New Delhi
9. Sculpture of Krishnajanma Dhubela Museum Chattarpur (M.P.) U.S.A 1999 Returned through the mediation of Consulate General of India, New York. Dhubela Museum, Chattarpur (M.P)

10. Paintings i) Chandigarh Museum
ii) Chandigarh Museum U.S.A

U.S.A 10-1-1990

4-3-1979 Voluntarily returned

Voluntarily returned Chandigarh Museum
Chandigarh Museum
11. Image of Lakulisa Jageswar U.S.A 2000 Voluntarily returned after negotiations by the Consulate General of India, Chichago with Mrs. Marilynn Alsdorf. CAC Section, Purana Qila, New Delhi

12. Decorative Wooden panels (7 nos.) Rajasthan Holland 2001 Voluntarily returned
CAC Section, Purana Qila,
New Delhi
13. Retrieval of Yogini Vrishanana -- Paris 2013 Returned on initiative of the then Minister of Culture
National Museum New Delhi.

14. Nataraja Tamil Nadu Australia 2014 Voluntarily returned Under the custody of Idol Wing Tamil Nadu
15 Ardhanareeswar form Australia Tamil Nadu Australia 2014 Voluntarily returned -do-
16. Parrot Lady Madhya Pradesh Canada 2015 Voluntarily returned CAC Section, Purana Qila, New Delhi
17. Durga (Mahishmardini) J&K Germany 2015 Voluntarily returned CAC Section, Purana Qila, New Delhi
18. Uma Parameshwari Tamil Nadu Singapore 2015 Voluntarily returned CAC Section, Purana Qila, New Delhi
19. Bronze image of Saint Manikkavachaka Tamil Nadu U.S.A 2016 Voluntarily returned CAC Section, Purana Qila, New Delhi
20. Metal image of Ganesha Tamil Nadu U.S.A 2016 Voluntarily returned CAC Section, Purana Qila, New Delhi
21. Female Figure (Honolulu Museum) Eastern India U.S.A 2016 Voluntarily returned CAC Section, Purana Qila, New Delhi
22. Male Deity (Honolulu Museum) Madhya Pradesh U.S.A 2016 Voluntarily returned CAC Section, Purana Qila, New Delhi
23. Floral Tile, Harvan Kashmir U.S.A 2016 Voluntarily returned CAC Section, Purana Qila, New Delhi
24. Stone panel Depicting Revanta and other figures Madhya Pradesh U.S.A 2016 Voluntarily returned CAC Section, Purana Qila, New Delhi
25. Sri Devi, Chola Period Tamil Nadu U.S.A 2016 Voluntarily returned CAC Section, Purana Qila, New Delhi
26. Bahubali Probably Andhra Pradesh U.S.A 2016 Voluntarily returned CAC Section, Purana Qila, New Delhi
27. Metal image of Parvati Tamil Nadu U.S.A 2016 Voluntarily returned CAC Section, Purana Qila, New Delhi
28. Matel image of Bhoo Devi Tamil Nadu U.S.A. 2016 Return as a case property PS Cr. No. 65/2008 Idol Wing CID
Police Tamil Nadu
29. Chakkarathalwar Tamil Nadu U.S.A. 2016 Return as a case property PS Cr. No. 65/2008 Idol Wing CID
Police Tamil Nadu